

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

TWO NEW POCKET MICE FROM WYOMING.

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In determining the status of pocket mice obtained in the course of biological investigations in Wyoming, two undescribed subspecies have been detected. One of these is a pallid representative of *Perognathus parvus*; the other a large, light-colored form of *Perognathus flavus*, by whose discovery in the State the known range of the species is materially extended northward.

They are characterized as follows:

***Perognathus parvus clarus*, subsp. nov.**

Type from Cumberland, Wyoming. No. 178,939, ♂ adult, U. S. National Museum (Biological Survey Collection), collected by S. G. Jewett, May 18, 1912. Original number 976.

Geographic distribution.—Green River Valley in southwestern Wyoming, and upper part of Snake River Valley in southeastern Idaho.

General characters.—Similar to *Perognathus parvus parvus* but somewhat larger; skull more massive; color paler. Size and proportions about as in *P. p. olivaceus*, but upperparts light buffy instead of light ochraceous buffy; lateral line less distinct.

Color.—Upperparts in general light-buff, finely and rather inconspicuously lined with black; buffy lateral line faint; white subauricular spots prominent as in *P. p. olivaceus*; feet and underparts white; tail brownish along a narrow line above; white below.

Skull.—As in *P. p. olivaceus*; larger, broader and more massive than that of *P. p. parvus*, with mastoids distinctly larger and rostrum broader.

Measurements.—Type: Total length, 181; tail vertebrae, 84; hind foot, 22. Average of 7 adult topotypes: 172 (160-186); 91 (83-97); 22 (21-23).

Skull (type): Greatest length, 25.4; greatest mastoid breadth, 13.4; interorbital breadth, 5.6; nasals, 10; interparietal, 5.6 x 3; maxillary toothrow, 3.9.

Remarks.—The pallid coloration of *Perognathus parvus clarus*, shared with *Perognathus fasciatus litus*, *Perognathus callistus*, *Perodipus ordii*

uteolus and other small mammals inhabiting southwestern Wyoming, suggests that all have been similarly affected by local environmental conditions. Specimens from Bear River, near the Utah border, are comparatively dark in color and apparently grade toward *P. p. olivaceus*. Those from southeastern Idaho are somewhat intermediate, as they combine the color of typical *P. p. clarus* with the smaller average size and more slender skull of *P. p. parvus* which inhabits the Snake River Valley in southwestern Idaho.

Specimens examined.—Total number, 34, as follows:

Idaho: American Falls, 8; Big Butte, 1; Birch Creek, 3; Blackfoot, 2; Dickey, 2; Lemhi, 1; Pahsimeroi River, 1; Pahsimeroi Valley, 2.

Wyoming: Bear River (14 miles north of Evanston), 2; Cumberland, 9 (type and topotypes); Fort Bridger, 1; Mountainview, 2.

***Perognathus flavus piperi*, subsp. nov.**

Type from 23 miles southwest of Newcastle, Wyoming. No. 168,650, ♂ adult, U. S. National Museum (Biological Survey Collection); collected by S. E. Piper, May 25, 1910. Original number 283.

Geographic distribution. Known only from the type locality, but probably ranging at low elevations throughout eastern Wyoming and western South Dakota.

General characters.—Most closely allied to *Perognathus flavus flavus* but larger; upperparts less intense ochraceous buffy; skull larger and differing in detail. Similar to *P. f. bimaculatus*, but smaller and paler colored.

Color.—Upperparts between light buff and light ochraceous-buff, finely mixed or overlaid with black; lateral line and postauricular spots pale but distinct; feet and underparts white as usual in the group; tail whitish all around.

Skull.—Essentially like that of *P. f. flavus* in general form, but larger throughout; nasals longer, reaching anterior plane of orbits (not normally reaching this plane in typical *flavus*); mastoids decidedly larger; interparietal quadrate in outline, the posterior border more deeply emarginate. Differing from that of *P. f. bimaculatus* in decidedly smaller size.

Measurements.—Type: Total length, 113; tail vertebrae, 51; hind foot, 17. Two adult topotypes, respectively: 116, 115; 49, 50; 17, 17. Skull (type): Greatest length, 22; greatest mastoid breadth, 12.4; interorbital breadth, 4.6; nasals, 8.1; width of interparietal, 2.7; length of interparietal on median line (between anterior border and posterior emargination), 1.6; maxillary tooththrow, 3.4.

Remarks.—*Perognathus flavus piperi* is readily distinguished by the combination of color and cranial characters pointed out. Its geographic range marks the northern limit of the species, which on the south reaches the Valley of Mexico. Specimens from eastern Colorado are assignable to *P. f. flavus*, but in less buffy coloration apparently grade toward the present form.

Specimens examined.—Three, all from the type locality.